

1/29/69

Dear Bud,

Pursuant to our yesterday's conversation, I hand you herewith the following:

My original copy of the copy of the autopsy sent the Commission by ~~Ezzkasz~~ James Rowley under date of 12/20/63. This particular version appears in a number of files. Here it bears two identifications, CD 77 and JFK-1. I lend you this, my original, because it is the clearest copy I have. I got it from the JFK-1 file. The second copy of the covering memo is from a different copy. It occurred to me the judge may want a full copy of the finished autopsy and that you may want a clearer, easier-to-read copy during arguments, so I lend you this in the event you want to make copies from a known and clear source. Please take good care of it. It is the fourth paragraph on the page numbered 2 that is to be compared with the fourth paragraph of the holograph. Until I can get service on my machine I must keep copying to the minimum. It is about to poop out, has run out of adjusting scope.

Copies I have made from the original of the listed parts of the CD 371 file, in this case also duplicated in JFK-1 and copied from it because it also is more legible. I will have this entire file with me in the event you want to make a full copy. Perhaps the judge would like one as a souvenir? I have made copies of only these pages (also included in Exhibit 398 but much larger this way)- a page of Humes' notes, in this case to show the size of the front-neck wound as he got it by phone from Dr. Malcolm Perry a.m. 11/23/63, first call, according to what Perry told me December 12, 1968; the second page of the holograph autopsy, where the bottom paragraph is to be bracketed with the fourth of CD77 to show that where Perry said the President had been shot from the front and turned his holograph in this way, magically it got changed to "much smaller", to eliminate the statement the President had been shot from the front; Humes' two 11/24/63 certifications, one that he turned in his notes and holograph at 5 p.m., which proves his Clark-report statement false, that he retained no papers, and that what he had had been in his possession all the time; just noticed this version omits certification that he burned those notes he described in his testimony as the first draft of the autopsy. It is in the back of WHITEWASH, in Exhibit 397, and I'll try and find time to dig up another copy before I come in; Admiral Galloway's receipt-memo to Admiral Burkley, 11/25/63, conveying last copy autopsy, which is against regulations, and "work papers"; Bouck's receipt to Burkley, 11/26/63, including "notes" (the marginal marks here are on the original and indicate staff awareness of the significance; the Boswell body chart; the Finck head scheme. You do not have to return these.

Paul Hoch disagrees with my interpretation of the documents and testimony. I believe it means that Humes did turn in his actual notes without which he could not have written his report. The Archives has never been able to find a copy. I have this in correspondence should you need it. However, whichever of us is correct, I think the only course is to assume his testimony means what it says, that we assume the government has the notes and raise the question in court. Let them say, in court, that they burned even the original notes, without which there can be no authentication of the autopsy. Now that ~~wentxxxxxx~~ have analyzed the A-rays, Garrison's needs are satisfied and it would seem safe to attack the integrity of the rest of it.

Wecht is undoubtedly familiar with the charts, but perhaps, in this full-sized version of Finck's, he can detect more.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg